



U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

GENERAL COUNSEL

400 Seventh St., SW.
Washington, D.C. 20590

OST-99-6410-18

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET
99 DEC 21 PM 3:31

December 21, 1999

Sara F. Harloff, CTC
Travel Consultant
A Team Travel
290 California Avenue
Reno, Nevada 89509-1621

Dear Ms. Harloff:

Your letter to Secretary Slater of December 1, 1999, has been referred to the General Counsel's Office. In your letter, you express support for the American Society of Travel Agents' formal complaint in Docket OST-99-6410 against various airlines. ASTA alleges that in cutting the commissions that they pay travel agents, the airlines are engaging in unfair practices and unfair methods of competition in violation of 49 U.S.C. §41712.

Under the Department's *ex parte* rules, 14 CFR Part 300, we cannot comment on the substance of your letter. We will, however, see that it and a copy of this response are placed in the docket.

Sincerely,

Betsy L. Wolf
Senior Trial Attorney
Office of Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings

cc: Docket OST-99-6410